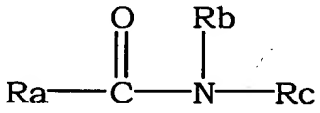
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. An agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis, which comprises a compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity.

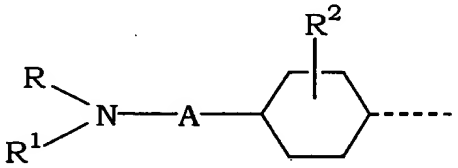
2. The agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of Claim 1, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I)



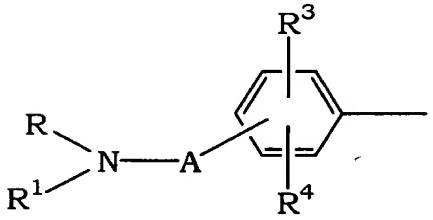
(I)

wherein

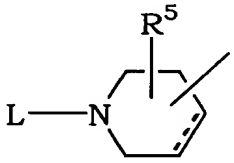
Ra is a group of the formula



(a)



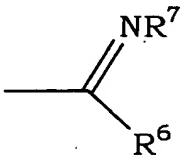
(b)



(c)

in the formulas (a) and (b),

R is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or a group of the formula



(d)

wherein R^6 is hydrogen, alkyl or formula : $-NR^8R^9$

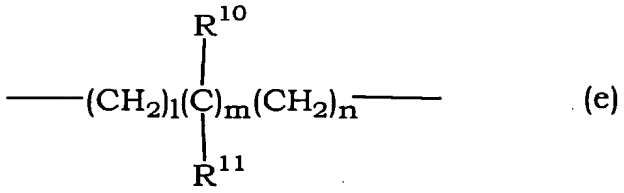
wherein R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl or phenyl, R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, phenyl, nitro or cyano, or R^6 and R^7 in combination show a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula



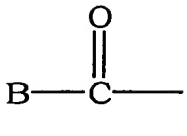
(e)

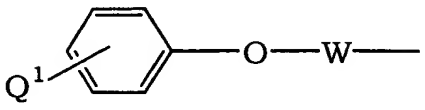
wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

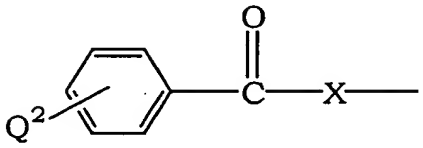
in the formula (c),

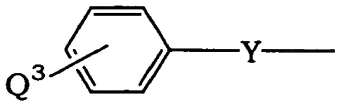
L is hydrogen, alkyl, aminoalkyl, mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl, tetrahydrofurfuryl, carbamoylalkyl,

phthalimidoalkyl, amidino or a group of the formula


(f)


(g)


(h)


(i)

wherein B is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, α-aminobenzyl, furyl, pyridyl, phenyl, phenylamino, styryl or imidazopyridyl,

Q^1 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, aralkyloxy or thienylmethyl,

W is alkylene,

Q^2 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy or aralkyloxy,

X is alkylene,

Q^3 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, nitro, amino, 2,3-dihydrofuryl or 5-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazin-6-yl;

and Y is a single bond, alkylene or alkenylene, and

in the formula (c),

a broken line is a single bond or a double bond, and

R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyloxy, alkanoyloxy or aralkyloxycarbonyloxy;

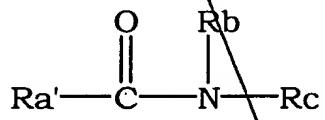
Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid

addition salt thereof.

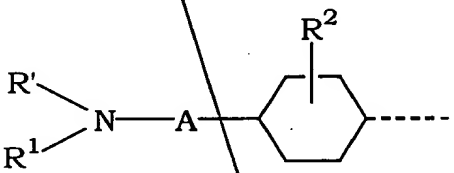
3. The agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I')



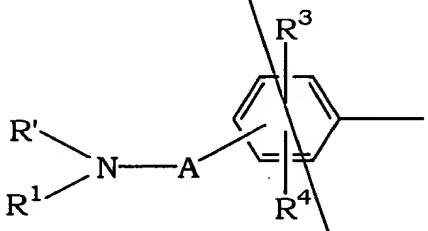
(I')

wherein

Ra' is a group of the formula



(a')



(b')

wherein

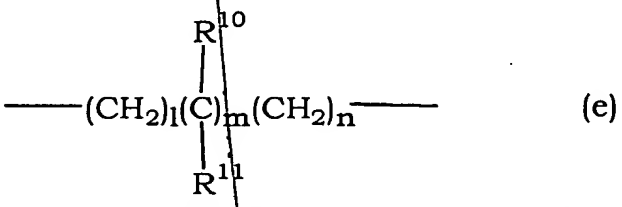
R' is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring,

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R' and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula



(e)

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

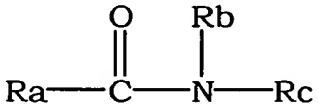
4. The agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 1, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is a compound selected from the group consisting of (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane, (+)-trans-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide, (R)-(+)-N-(4-pyridyl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide and (R)-(+)-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

5. The agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 1, wherein the compound

having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

6. A pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis, which comprises a compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

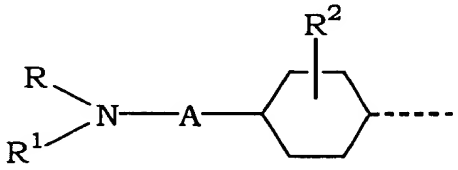
7. The pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 6, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I)



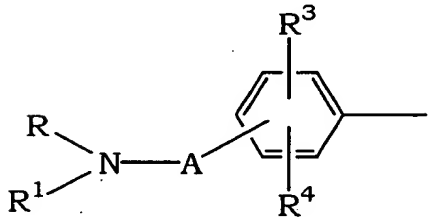
(I)

wherein

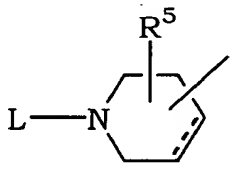
Ra is a group of the formula



(a)



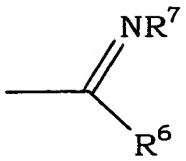
(b)



(c)

in the formulas (a) and (b),

R is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or a group of the formula



(d)

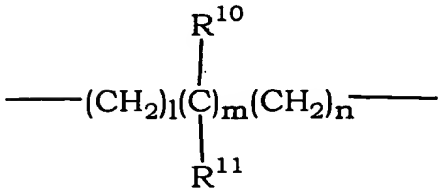
wherein R^6 is hydrogen, alkyl or formula : $-NR^8R^9$ wherein R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl or phenyl, R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, phenyl, nitro or cyano, or R^6 and R^7 in combination show a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula



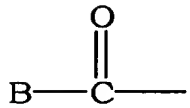
(e)

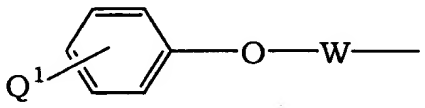
wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group

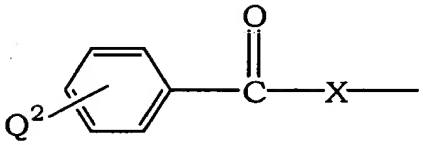
which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

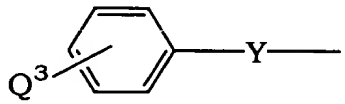
in the formula (c),

L is hydrogen, alkyl, aminoalkyl, mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl, tetrahydrofurfuryl, carbamoylalkyl, phthalimidoalkyl, amidino or a group of the formula


(f)


(g)


(h)


(i)

wherein B is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkanoyloxy-alkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, α-aminobenzyl, furyl, pyridyl, phenyl, phenylamino, styryl or imidazopyridyl,

Q^1 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, aralkyloxy or thienylmethyl,

W is alkylene,

Q^2 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy or aralkyloxy,

X is alkylene,

Q^3 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, nitro, amino, 2,3-dihydrofuryl or 5-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazin-6-yl;

and Y is a single bond, alkylene or alkenylene, and

in the formula (c),

a broken line is a single bond or a double bond, and

R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyloxy, alkanoyloxy or aralkyloxycarbonyloxy;

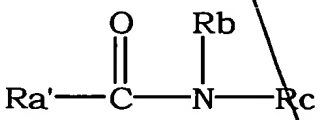
Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or

a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

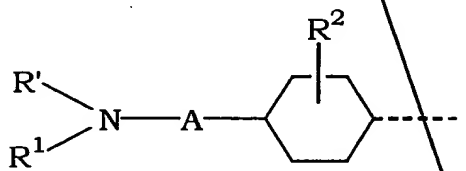
8. The pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I')



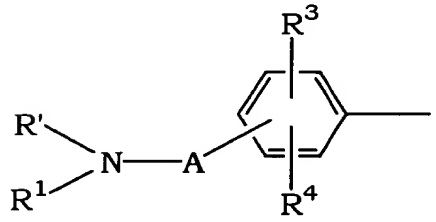
(I')

wherein

Ra' is a group of the formula



(a')



(b')

wherein

R' is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring,

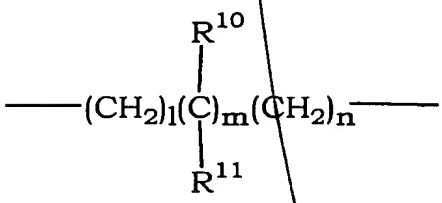
R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R' and R^1 in combination form,

together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula



(e)

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

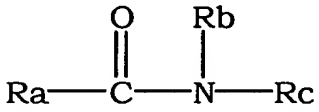
9. The pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 6, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory

activity is a compound selected from the group consisting of (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane, (+)-trans-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide, (R)-(+)-N-(4-pyridyl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide and (R)-(+)-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

10. The pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 6, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)-cyclohexane and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

11. A method of the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity to a patient.

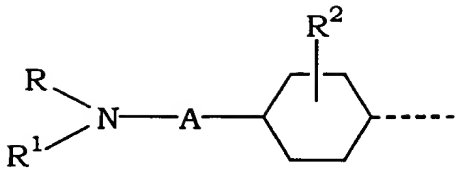
12. The method of the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 11, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I)



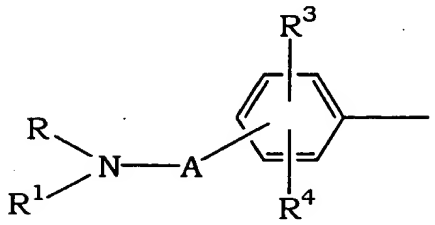
(I)

wherein

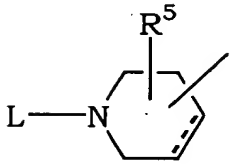
Ra is a group of the formula



(a)



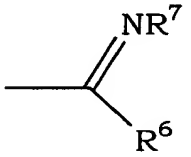
(b)



(c)

in the formulas (a) and (b),

R is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or a group of the formula



(d)

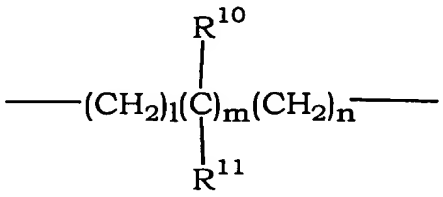
wherein R^6 is hydrogen, alkyl or the formula: $-NR^8R^9$ wherein R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl or phenyl, R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, phenyl, nitro or cyano, or R^6 and R^7 in combination show a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula

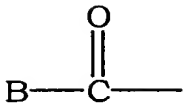


(e)

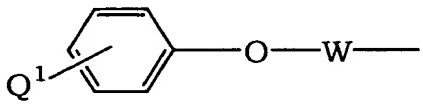
wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

in the formula (c),

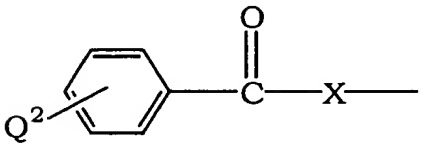
L is hydrogen, alkyl, aminoalkyl, mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl, tetrahydrofurfuryl, carbamoylalkyl, phthalimidoalkyl, amidino or a group of the formula



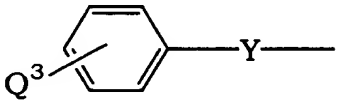
(f)



(g)



(h)



(i)

wherein B is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkanoyloxy-alkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, α-aminobenzyl, furyl, pyridyl, phenyl, phenylamino, styryl or imidazopyridyl,

Q^1 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, aralkyloxy or

thienylmethyl,

W is alkylene,

Q^2 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy or aralkyloxy,

X is alkylene,

Q^3 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, nitro, amino, 2,3-dihydrofuryl or 5-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazin-6-yl;

and Y is a single bond, alkylene or alkenylene, and

in the formula (c),

a broken line is a single bond or a double bond, and

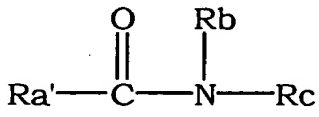
R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyloxy, alkanoyloxy or aralkyloxycarbonyloxy;

Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

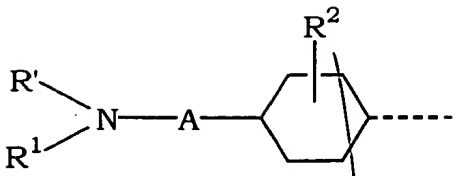
13. The method of the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 11 or claim 12, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I')



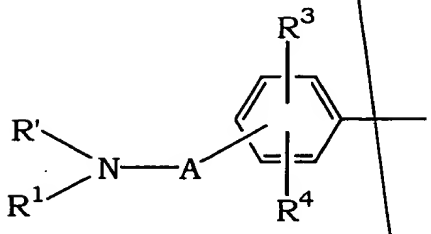
(I')

wherein

Ra' is a group of the formula



(a')



(b')

wherein

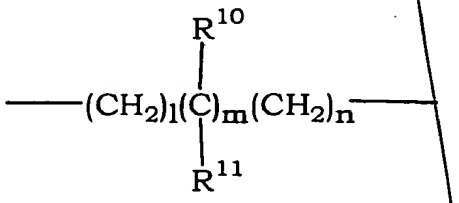
R' is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring,

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R' and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula



(e)

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl,

carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

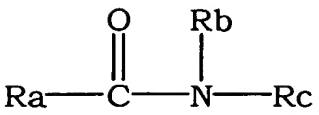
an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

14. The method of the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 11, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is a compound selected from the group consisting of (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane, (+)-trans-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide, (R)-(+)-N-(4-pyridyl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide and (R)-(+)-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

15. The method of the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of claim 11, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is a (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

16. Use of a compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity for the production of an agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis.

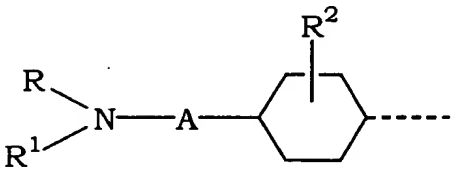
17. The use of claim 16, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I)



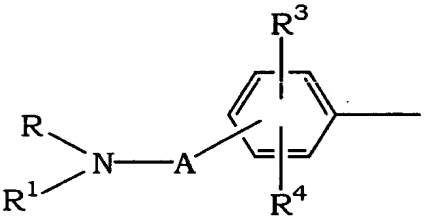
(I)

wherein

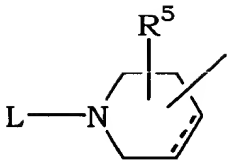
Ra is a group of the formula



(a)



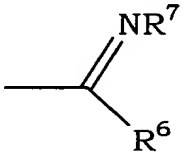
(b)



(c)

in the formulas (a) and (b),

R is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or a group of the formula



(d)

wherein R^6 is hydrogen, alkyl or formula : $-NR^8R^9$ wherein R^8 and R^9 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl or phenyl, R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, phenyl, nitro or cyano, or R^6 and R^7 in combination show a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

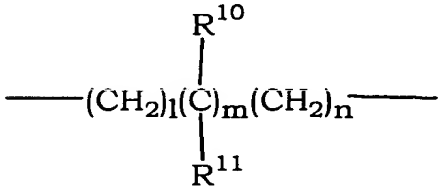
R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a

heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula

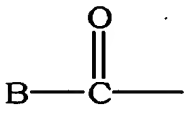


(e)

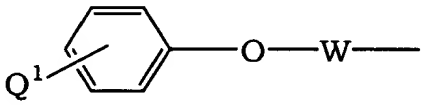
wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

in the formula (c),

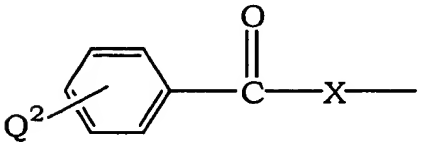
L is hydrogen, alkyl, aminoalkyl, mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl, tetrahydrofurfuryl, carbamoylalkyl, phthalimidoalkyl, amidino or a group of the formula



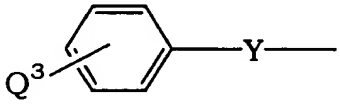
(f)



(g)



(h)



(i)

wherein B is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, aralkyl,

aralkyloxy, aminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, α-aminobenzyl, furyl, pyridyl, phenyl, phenylamino, styryl or imidazopyridyl,

Q^1 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, aralkyloxy or thienylmethyl,

W is alkylene,

Q^2 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy or aralkyloxy,

X is alkylene,

Q^3 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, nitro, amino, 2,3-dihydrofuryl or 5-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazin-6-yl;

and Y is a single bond, alkylene or alkenylene, and

in the formula (c),

a broken line is a single bond or a double bond, and

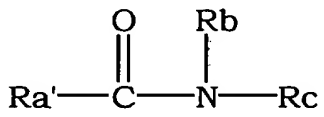
R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyloxy, alkanoyloxy or aralkyloxycarbonyloxy;

Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

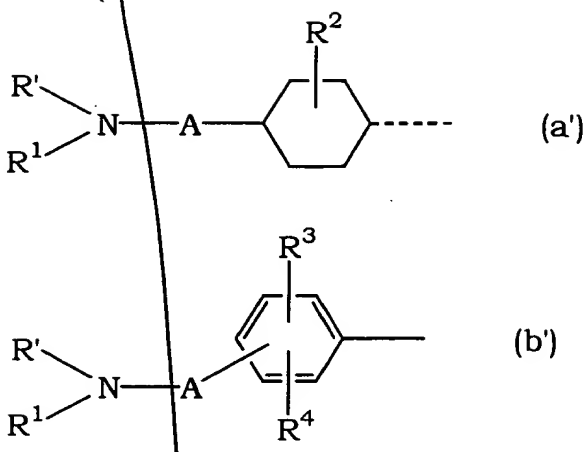
18. The use of claim 16 or claim 17, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is an amide compound of the following formula (I')



(I')

wherein

Ra' is a group of the formula



(a')

(b')

wherein

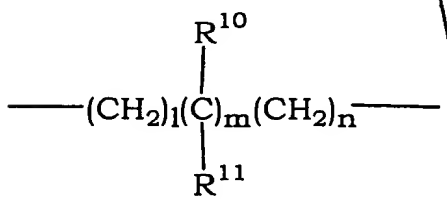
R' is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring,

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl, or cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, phenyl or aralkyl, which optionally has a substituent on the ring, or R' and R^1 in combination form, together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, a group forming a heterocycle optionally having, in the ring, oxygen atom, sulfur atom or optionally substituted nitrogen atom,

R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are the same or different and each is hydrogen, alkyl, aralkyl, halogen, nitro, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, hydroxy, alkoxy, aralkyloxy, cyano, acyl, mercapto, alkylthio, aralkylthio, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, alkylcarbamoyl or azide, and

A is a group of the formula



(e)

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are the same or different and each

is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxy or alkoxycarbonyl, or R^{10} and R^{11} show a group which forms cycloalkyl in combination and l, m and n are each 0 or an integer of 1-3,

Rb is a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aralkyl, an aminoalkyl or a mono- or dialkylaminoalkyl; and

Rc is an optionally substituted heterocycle containing nitrogen,

an isomer thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

19. The use of claim 16, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is a compound selected from the group consisting of (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane, (+)-trans-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide, (R)-(+)-N-(4-pyridyl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide and (R)-(+)-N-(1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4-yl)-4-(1-aminoethyl)benzamide, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

20. The use of claim 16, wherein the compound having a Rho kinase inhibitory activity is a (+)-trans-4-(1-aminoethyl)-1-(4-pyridylcarbamoyl)cyclohexane, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

21. A commercial package comprising a pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis of any of claim 6 to claim 10, and a written matter associated therewith, the written matter stating that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for the prophylaxis and treatment of interstitial pneumonia and pulmonary fibrosis.